

CHELSEA.

Miss Martha Hall is in a very critical condition as the result of a shock she sustained about a week ago.

Joseph H. Griffin, who has been critically ill with the prevailing distemper for over a week, is convalescing.

John Lane, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert H. Lane, is filling the position of clerk at the hotel Otis in Barre City.

Charles N. Hunt and Julian C. Hood, two of our local fox hunters, recently shot a fox which weighed 14½ pounds.

Holton S. Annis went Friday to Laconia, N. H., to visit his sister, Mrs. Rowe, who has been seriously ill for several weeks.

Vinton A. Corwin of Boston spent a few days in town recently as the guest of his father, J. A. R. Corwin, and other relatives.

Deputy Sheriff James O. Kendall of South Stratford was in town Thursday with a pair of drunks for commitment to the county jail.

Dr. George Magoon and wife of East Barre were in town Wednesday and Thursday and while here were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Quaide.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan E. Sargent of North Randolph were in town for a day recently as the guests of their daughter, Mrs. Will A. Dickinson, and family.

Mrs. Gertrude M. Jennings, who has been staying at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Sharp, for several weeks, went Thursday to Barnard to visit friends.

Superintendent Herbert D. Casey of Williamstown was in town Thursday and Friday, Feb. 29 and March 1, and held teachers' examinations at the high school building.

Mr. and Mrs. George B. Carpenter of East Randolph were in town Tuesday and Wednesday as the guests of Mr. and Mrs. G. Clinton Bowin. Mr. Bowin and Mrs. Carpenter are brother and sister.

The leap year ball, given by the young ladies of the town Tuesday evening, was attended by about twenty-five couples and the occasion was much enjoyed. The local four-piece orchestra furnished fine music for the entertainment.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert J. Kingsbury and daughter, Miss Doris, of West Fairlee were in town the first of last week and were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard I. Thompson. Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Kingsbury are brother and sister.

Stanley C. Wilson has sold the A. W. Hoyt farm in South Washington, which he recently purchased of Henry Sharp, to Virgil Coddington, who works on the quarry at Westerville. Mr. Coddington will move his family to his newly purchased home from Bethel at once.

Miss Emma L. Sargent, daughter of Christopher C. Sargent, late of this town, was married in Barre City to Edward L. Dutton of Williamstown by Rev. G. H. Holt on Friday evening, February 22. They will reside on the southeast hill in Williamstown, where the groom has a farm.

Miss Rebecca Wright of Montpelier is in town directly the work of card cataloging the books in the Chelsea public library. Miss Wright is sent here by the state to assist in the work of cataloging the books in the Chelsea public library, which is said to be the largest town public library in the state.

The New Chelsea Dramatic company played "The Legal Document" at Knight's new opera house at South Royalton last Wednesday evening to a good house. The local four-piece orchestra, F. D. Parkhurst, violin; F. L. Beckwith, bass; Lyle R. Beckwith, cornet, and Eunice Noyes Lewis, piano, accompanied them to South Royalton and played for the drama and dance which followed.

News is received here that Mr. and Mrs. Fred Snyder, who are well and favorably known here, having lived for several years on the Fitts farm on Vershire heights, are now nicely located at Lisbon, N. H., where Mr. Snyder has steady employment and where their son and daughter, who were students in the high school during the past two years, are attending school.

EAST CALAIS.

Baby Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Hawkins Died from Operation.

Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Hawkins' baby daughter, whom they took to the hospital last Thursday, was operated upon, and the surgeons found that the intestines were tied. The child came out from the effects of the ether, but was not strong enough to withstand the shock and died that night about 5 o'clock. The funeral was held at the house Sunday at 1 o'clock, with a large number of people present. Walter J. Coates presided the funeral sermon.

Mrs. L. O. Leonard is about the same. Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Campbell of Hardwick visited in town Monday.

Dora Allen is visiting at Dr. Frank Wheeler's in North Montpelier.

L. P. Burnham is working in Calot for Leon Haines, drawing logs.

Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Hatch were in Montpelier Monday on business.

Burt Nelson, Lewis V. Lyford and Albert Haskell of Woodbury were in town Monday.

Mrs. Anna Clark of South Cabot visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ira Goodrich, Saturday and Sunday.

Herbert Scribner, A. O. Slayton, Arthur Clark, James Warhurst, Arthur Bullock and D. B. Dwinell were business visitors in Plainfield Monday.

COULD HAVE SAVED MONEY

You can save money by spending it right, as well as by laying it aside.

For instance, there are many people who do not buy the right medicine for their ailments, and pay out many dollars before they learn just what to do.

Mrs. Alex. Dumas of Malone, N. Y., knows this now. She says: "A very heavy cold settled on my lungs last winter and for three months, I coughed almost constantly. At night I could hardly get any sleep. I tried several medicines, but none of them did me any good. Then I thought I would use Vinol and it began to help my cough from almost the first dose."

"I do not cough at all now. I can sleep well and have gained much strength, all because I took your splendid tonic."

When you buy Vinol for your cough, or to build you up, you are getting the best remedy that can be had and will not need to experiment with any others. We guarantee Vinol to do you good, and will give back your money if you are not well satisfied. Red Cross Pharmacy, Burt H. Wells, Prop., Barre, Vt.

WEST TOPSHAM.

Robert White is threatened with pneumonia.

John Damon has sold his farm to Ernest Magoon.

M. A. White and William Hight were in Barre Thursday.

Mrs. L. P. Hight, who has been quite ill, remains about the same.

Mr. and Mrs. G. K. Church of Bradford were in town Saturday.

R. M. Harvey of Montpelier was in town several days last week.

J. R. McLam was on this side of the hill the first of the week on business.

Mrs. H. M. Sanborn is in Newbury, called there by the death of Hale Bailey.

A. F. Jeffords of East Topsham visited his mother, Mrs. Olie Jeffords, last Sunday.

A. T. Freeman will preach in Union church Sunday at 10:30; subject, "Dynamite of Modern Civilization."

Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Bagley and daughter, Edith, of Bradford visited relatives and friends in town several days last week.

Mrs. W. W. Keyes, who is in Heaton hospital, Montpelier, is gaining slowly and his many friends will be pleased when she returns.

WAITSFIELD.

S. P. Jolyin has rented the tenement in the Matthews house.

The ladies' aid society will serve their annual town meeting dinner, in the dining room of the M. E. church next Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Howd and Mrs. Savage have moved to Richmond, where they have employment on a large farm.

Mrs. Sarah Hines has sold her house in this village to Henry Baird. Mrs. Hines is to have an auction Monday, March 4.

Miss Jessie Patterson, who has been in the Mary Fletcher hospital for treatment for the past four or five weeks, is expected home Monday.

Miss Rosetta Miller and nephew, Harvey Miller, of Huntington, P. Q., Mrs. Wood of St. Albans and James Thompson of Montpelier spent the past week with J. D. Thompson.

NATIONAL BOARD OF TRADE.

Taft Proposes It And Meeting To Organize It Is Called.

Washington, D. C., March 4.—President Taft started a movement to bring the business men of the country into touch with the government, virtually proposing a national board of trade, broadly representative of the commercial and industrial organizations.

By the president's direction, Secretary Nagel has called a convention of delegates from commercial organizations in all parts of the country at Washington, April 15, for discussion and to plan an organization.

President Taft outlined the purpose of the organization as giving the government opportunity to consult the business world on all problems of trade, commerce and industry.

The Glorious Gladiolus.

In Suburban Life Magazine for March, Mrs. E. E. Trumbull tells of her success with gladiolus. She says: "Rightly named is the gladiolus, as it makes us glad almost the whole year. As we stand in the garden, when the light green points begin breaking through the soil, because we know that every bulb planted will be sure to yield one or more lovely flower spikes. It is doubtful if any flower can be grown in our gardens that will give greater satisfaction than a bed of gladiolus. It seems no exaggeration to say that, for real beauty and general usefulness, they stand unrivaled among the many lovely summer-blooming bulbs."

Balks the Jail Breakers.

A detective was talking about jail breaking. "Down in Colombo," he said, "they have got a very good dodge against the jail breaker. It's simple too. The next bricks. You see, the Mutual jail at Colombo is surrounded by a very high brick wall. Well, the last dozen courses of these bricks are laid loose, without mortar. So when you try to escape you climb stealthily, hardly daring to breathe, up the wall, and with a sigh of relief you reach the loose course at the top and—clatter, crash, bang, clatter—a thousand bricks in the profound silence fall with a noise fit to wake the dead and a dozen warders rush out and you climb down sadly into their waiting arms."—New York Press.

Relieved.

A young north side father on arriving home the other evening found his wife in a state of great excitement.

"Harold," she exclaimed, "baby got hold of the ink bottle this morning."

"And what has he done?"

"Spilled ink all over the new dining room rug."

"That can be easily remedied. I thought you were going to tell me that the misguided child had written a novel."—Pittsburgh Post.

At Sixes and Sevens.

She—A pretty time of night for you to come home! He—A pretty time of night for you to be awake! She—I've stayed awake for the last four hours waiting for you to come home. He—And I have been keeping myself awake for the last four hours at the club waiting for you to go to sleep.—London Tit-Bits.

TEN-DOLLAR BOOK FREE!

The Adler-ika book, telling how you can EASILY guard against appendicitis, and how you can relieve constipation or gas on the stomach INSTANTLY, is offered free this week by Kendrick & Co., Druggists.

OPEN SALOON DISCUSSED

BY SUPT. J. N. BARSS

(Continued from first page.)

fortunate, he had been given ample opportunity to view the liquor question in all of its many aspects. Through his contact with thousands of unfortunate boys and girls, he had been privileged to look at the state of New England society through the "back door," as he said. He proposed to deal with nothing but facts, and said that he would do no mud-throwing. His attacks were not directed against the saloon keeper, but rather against the system which allowed him to conduct a wicked traffic that produced criminals.

Superintendent Barss went back to the early history of saloons and explained how the downfall of every government had been brought about through the curse of strong drink. The pages of history, he said, hold a message of warning to the American people. He mentioned each in turn the governments of early Egypt, China, Greece, and Rome, showing how the abuse of liquor had been responsible for reigns of debauchery and immorality. The experience of France had been identical with that of other nations. Emperor William of Germany was among the first of present-day rulers to recognize the ruinous depredations of wine and beer in the rank and file of the armies, and it was the kaiser, who first enunciated a campaign against this vice. America, too, has suffered and continues to suffer through the pernicious activities of the saloon, and in reciting the history of other nations, the speaker sounded a note of warning to the men who cast the ballots.

Discussing the question from an educational standpoint, the speaker proceeded to give some arguments concerning the effects of liquor on the body politic. The international alcoholic commission, which met in London a few years ago, when learned medical men from all over the world congregated, emphatically asserted that alcoholic liquors produced a deleterious effect on the consumer. It was labeled as a depressing narcotic, and the commission destroyed all theories to the contrary by declaring that alcohol is a poison, the use of which other poison is as much as any other poison in the catalogue. Its only antidote is more alcohol. Agreeing that it might act as a stimulant, the speaker said that it afterwards leaves the body depleted and that it reduces vitality.

Barss claimed that alcohol first attacked the nerve centers and told of instances in his work at the state industrial school where young boys developed murderous tendencies through their inability to collect their thoughts and maintain a normal condition mentally. The speaker's reference to the industrial aspects of the issue brought a number of astonishing facts that caught the audience's attention. He called attention to the enormous harvest of human lives which the railroads are yearly reaping in this country, and told of thirty-nine railroad presidents, who arrived at the conclusion that much of it was due to the use of alcoholic stimulants among railroad men. Speaking of the facts which have presented themselves to insurance men, Mr. Barss produced telling figures showing the effect of alcohol on mortality statistics.

Keenly alive to the opportunity for sound results, he said, the insurance companies even in our own state had obtained figures almost appalling in their investigations. A young man possessing good habits at the age of twenty years has forty-four additional years to live. The moderately regular drinker at this age is given only thirty-one years more to live, according to the statistics compiled, while the heavy drinker's insurance rate is based on the assumption that he will die at the age of thirty-five years. Alcohol is killing 6,000 men in Vermont each year, declared the speaker, or at a rate of seventeen per cent. men are paying the human sacrifice for their excesses.

Later, Superintendent Barss asserted the local option law was providing men with better whiskey than in the old prohibition days, and that there were fewer arrests under the present system. The speaker told of his researches during the last few years and of the very interesting data furnished him by several of the county sheriffs. The jail books, said Mr. Barss, plainly tell the story. At the outset Mr. Barss wrote to all of the county sheriffs in Vermont for statistics of the jail records for the last twenty years. Eleven out of the fourteen were able to reply, and nine out of the eleven were thoroughly studied by the compiler.

From 1890 until 1900, 1,800 men were imprisoned for intoxication. During the next decade, the number amounted to 5,700. In the years spanning the decade from 1900 to 1909, as many as 174 men were imprisoned for illegal sale of wine. The next ten years saw 353 offenders placed behind the bars for the same crime. Murders, breach of peace convictions and statutory offenses increased almost in proportion. In the two decades, Vermont's population increased only 6½ per cent, while her crime, he believed, increased 136 per cent.

Further light on these figures was shed when the speaker told of the conclusions reached which were based on the thirteen years preceding the local option system and the eight years of its regime. The increase in crime during the last-named period was far greater than double that of the preceding thirteen years.

To refute the statement that Vermont's increase in crime was due to the influx of foreigners in Barre, Montpelier, Bennington and Brattleboro, Superintendent Barss said that less than 2 per cent of the inmates at the state industrial school had two foreign-born parents, this according to a census taken at the school in December. Police records show that fifty per cent of the inmates at the state prison in Windsor during the past twenty years had been native-born Vermonters. The only just criterion of the relative arrests in the years of prohibition and local option is found in a comparison of the figures, said the speaker.

The speaker believed that the two great forces which are to-day threatening the nation are the saloons and the social evil. He showed how the two have developed hand in hand and said that in every one of the 5,000 houses of ill fame in the city of Chicago the sale of intoxicating liquors either illicitly or legally is carried on. "Find me the element that is responsible for the consumption of liquor and its traffic in Barre," challenged Mr. Barss, "and I will produce the element that fosters the social evil." Other minor phases of the problem, however, were discussed in Superintendent Barss' address and at the close of his talk, lasting over an hour, the attention accorded to speaker might well have encouraged him to talk longer. The services closed with congregational singing and benediction by Rev. Dr. Thayer.

RHEUMATISM SUFFERERS

READ THIS LETTER

Then Decide for Yourself Whether You Will Continue in Pain, When Relief Is in Sight.

(The undersigned words in the below unsolicited letter are reproduced as they were received by us.)

Oneonta, N. Y., Sunday Morning, Dec. 17, 1911.

"Magistral Chemical Co., New York City."

"Gentlemen:

"The two-dollar package of 'Nurito' received this morning and please accept my thanks. I hardly know how to express in words my appreciation to you. When I say 'Nurito' is wonderful, the meaning is limitless. No other words need be employed. The effect of 'Nurito' has been so sure, thorough and satisfactory in my case that I can hardly believe my eyes or my feelings as the rheumatic pains left me as if by magic and the swelling nearly all gone. You saw the condition I was in Thursday last, and to-day—Sunday—I am walking perfectly natural."

"Being in such a condition when I met you, and then to get almost instant relief from such sufferings, naturally I could not refrain from talking about it—consequently 8 people already have been here inquiring about the wonderful 'Nurito.'"

"E. A. Collar."

"7 Ernst St., Oneonta, N. Y."

(This sufferer called at our office when in New York to satisfy himself of the merits of Nurito before taking it. We demonstrated to him that Nurito is a prescription—not a patent medicine—and that it contains no opiates or narcotics. Nurito can be obtained at Red Cross Pharmacy, E. A. Drown's, in 81 and 82 boxes.

VERMONT AND THE RECALL.

State Had Experience Along Lines Now Suggested Elsewhere.

The state of Vermont in its early days had an experience with the courts that is worth considering in connection with Mr. Roosevelt's proposal for the recall of judicial decisions. Mr. Roosevelt would have the people recall them; in Vermont the decisions were recalled by the representatives of the people, that is, the legislature. But the Vermont legislature did far more than reverse the supreme court's opinions interpreting the constitution. It interpreted at almost every point—passed acts vacating, annulling or reversing judgments, granting appeals from final decisions and ordering new trials in cases finally disposed of by the judicial branch of the government. It was not until 1824, evidently, in the case of Bates against Kimball, that this interesting chapter in Vermont history was virtually closed with the overthrow of that demoralizing form of recall of judicial decisions.

There is little or nothing essentially new in Mr. Roosevelt's idea, as the Vermont experience shows. The original settlers of "the New Hampshire grants," as Vermont was known before the Revolution, had inherited the conception of a legislature omnipotent, so far as the judiciary was concerned, and the state constitution of 1777 did not contemplate as possible to exercise by the courts of the state the power to annul or reverse legislative or constitutional grounds. Under that constitution—and, by the way, Vermont was wholly independent and was not in the union at all until 1791, owing to the old controversy with New York concerning the rightful jurisdiction over the lands as far east as the Connecticut river—under that constitution the Vermont legislature was a frequent meddling in judicial affairs. Chipman, in his interesting preface to the first volume of the Vermont law reports, published early in the last century, says: "Since the adoption of the constitution of 1788 the legislatures have not so frequently passed acts violating the rights of property or vacating and annulling judgments; but they continued to grant new trials for some years, it is believed, with little opposition."

This legislative interference with the judicial power was criticized and condemned repeatedly by that curious Vermont institution, the council of censors, which was created by the constitution of 1777 and which did not cease to exist until the constitutional convention of 1870. This body was chosen by the people every seven years and it held office for only one year. Its duty was to inquire whether the constitution had been violated, inviolate during the last year, and whether any of the branches of the government had usurped powers. If the censors concluded that the legislature had passed acts contrary to the constitution, they could recommend to the legislature their repeal. It was one of the early councils of censors which forcibly pointed out the demoralizing effect of the legislature's attitude toward the courts, showing particularly how the censors could never be sure whether the decrees of the supreme court itself would not be cast aside by a mere majority of the single chamber of which the legislature in Vermont was composed—a majority often acting on caprice or under those sinister influences which politicians or wealthy individuals could bring to bear upon it.

The case of Bates against Kimball in 1824, which is fully reported in the second volume of Chipman, grew out of the settlement of the estate of one Barber. Bates had a claim of between \$500 and \$600 against it, and a commission appointed by the probate court had allowed the claim. Kimball, as administrator, failed to appeal from the commission's decision without the time limit allowed and thus, in the court's view, the decision became final and irreversible. But later on, Kimball went to the Vermont legislature and obtained a special act granting him an appeal in the case of the Bates claim. This act was a palpable exercise of judicial power and the question of the legislature's right to interfere was the chief point considered by the supreme court of the state when the case was brought before it. The court's decision conceded that the legislature had in the past not infrequently exercised judicial power in the same or a similar manner, but it declared the exercise of the power now to be unconstitutional, being an invasion of the principle of an independent judiciary and a usurpation

of power not granted to the lawmaking body by the people in framing the constitution.

The decision in the case of Bates against Kimball has never been reversed and probably it never will be. The people of Vermont themselves had come to understand the vicious effect of such legislative intervention in judicial processes. What had once been an unquestioned usage of the legislature became obsolete and ridiculous. The recall of judicial decisions by the representatives of the people had been tried and found to be incompatible with individual rights and the interests of a well-ordered society. It must be the judgment of every sober-minded student of the question that an attempt to have judicial decisions recalled by the people themselves, instead of by their representatives, would prove equally impracticable and harmful to the social order.

It is true that Mr. Roosevelt would confine the popular recall to cases involving an interpretation of the constitution. What he said in his Columbus speech was:

"The decision of a state court on a constitutional question should be subject to revision by the people of the state. If it is sustained, well and good. If not, then the popular verdict is to be accepted as final, the decision is to be treated as reversed and the construction of the constitution definitely decided—subject only to action by the supreme court of the United States."

But how could such a system in practice be more successful than the old Vermont system? Every constitutional question in nearly all of the states of the union must come before the state supreme court in a specific case, say of John Doe against Richard Roe. Some individual, or corporation or association necessarily has involved in such a case property interests or civil rights, which the decision of the court vitally affects one way or the other.

The Vermont experience proves that when the legislature attempted to reverse specific judicial decisions the effect was distinctly bad upon litigants and upon the entire administration of justice. "Have the legislature power to vacate or annul an existing judgment between party and party?" asked the court in the case of Bates against Kimball. The question should also be asked: Have the people the power, or should they have the power, to vacate or annul an existing judgment between party and party?

It is fantastic, in fact, to ignore the "parties," the actual litigants, and upon the entire administration of justice, to say, "The popular verdict is to be accepted as final, the decision is to be treated as reversed." What was before a decision in favor of John Doe now, by a majority of the votes cast, becomes a decision in favor of Richard Roe.

Sooner or later the Does and the Roes would say: "Why go to the courts with differences? The lawyers tell us a constitutional question is involved. Let us save money and time and appeal to the people, in their wisdom, to settle this case right away."—Springfield Republican.

\$35,000 FIRE AT LIMESTONE, MAINE

Snow on the Roofs Enabled the Volunteers to Seve the Remainder of the Village.

Limestone, Me., March 4.—Fire Saturday destroyed four frame buildings on Main street in the center of this town. The loss is estimated at \$35,000, partly covered by insurance. The cause is unknown.

Starting in a hall on the second floor of a two-story building owned by Louis A. Cyr and occupied by his general store on the ground floor, the flames spread rapidly. This building was burned, together with the two-story Charles A. Perry building, containing a general store; the two-story Durand building, and a one-story structure occupied by William H. Webster's undertaking rooms. The firemen had a hard fight to prevent the fire from spreading to other buildings. No one was injured.

Snow on the roofs and a favorable direction of the wind enabled the volunteer firemen to confine the fire to the four buildings. The heaviest loss was sustained by Mrs. Cyr, estimated at about \$12,000. The Durand block, owned by the heirs of Nathan Durand, was occupied as a store and residence. The Perry building contained the postoffice, of which Charles A. Perry is postmaster, in addition to the general and clothing store of Mellen Bros. Much mail matter was saved.

The fire was confined to the east side of Main street, south of Bridge street.

Repels Attack of Death.

"Five years ago two doctors told me I had only two years to live." This startling statement was made by Stillman Green, Malachite, Col. They told me I would die with consumption. It was up to me then to try the best lung medicine and I began to use Dr. King's New Discovery. It was well I did, for to-day I am working and believe I owe my life to this great throat and lung cure that has cheated the grave of another victim." It's folly to suffer with coughs, colds or other throat and lung troubles now. Take the cure that's safest. Price 50 cents and \$1.00. Trial bottle free at the Red Cross Pharmacy.

Workingmen Appealed to By Socialists.

An appeal to working men, and all who believe the rights of man are more important than the rights of property: If you want to see the class war ended and strikes, lockouts and poverty abolished, a vote for Socialism is a step in the right direction. "The wage system must be abolished. Let us hope that it will be, by evolution, rather than revolution."—Rev. E. O. Thayer. Socialism works with and means evolution. It is better to vote for what you want, though you do not get it, than to vote for something you don't want and get it. If Socialism is too good to come true, what is the use of preaching the brotherhood of man?

(Working men of Barre, vote for the party that stands for everything the working man requires. Men who love justice, liberty and truth, join with the hosts of labor. The Socialist party is the only party that will bring industrial salvation to the toilers of the world.

"Their labor has made the wilderness bloom. The forest before them falls. Their skill has fashioned stately homes, And cities with marble halls. But the one owns cities and homes and lands. While the ninety and nine have empty hands."

Socialist press committee, J. T. Callaghan, William Nichol, Bert Phillips.

A FIT OF PESSIMISM

By WILLARD BLAKEMAN

Myra Coolidge was the daughter of my employer and was my fiancée. I had been with John Coolidge from boyhood and at the time of my engagement was expecting soon to become a junior partner. Indeed, I had done a great deal to build up the business, and since Mr. Coolidge was getting old I was gradually assuming more and more responsibility in its management. As the day of my nuptials with Miss Coolidge approached I began to dread some misfortune that would mar our happiness. Expecting to step into a partnership in a fine business and be married at the same time to a girl I loved devotedly, I naturally considered myself on the pinnacle of happiness. I could go no higher and at any change must go lower.

One afternoon when we closed the office we had quite a large sum of money in the safe. I went to bed that night thinking in this wise:

Suppose the safe should be robbed and that money taken. Mr. Coolidge would be ruined, I would be thrown out of employment and my splendid business prospects blighted. My wedding would likely be deferred and possibly never take place. I would lose heart and commence a descent which would probably land me in the poorhouse. This is the opposite of "counting one's chickens before they are hatched." Lying awake in a dark room I am apt to be stricken with pessimism, and I wrought myself up to such a pitch of foreboding that I became oppressed with the feeling that the safe would surely be robbed that night. I could not be satisfied till I had got out of bed, dressed myself and started for the office.

When I awoke I opened the door with a key I always carried, entered, turned on a light and saw that all was the same as I had left it in the afternoon. I had nothing to do with the finances of the concern and did not know the combination or I would have opened it to see that the money was still there. It was a rare piece of luck that I did not. There was a lounge in the office, and I felt so uneasy that, disliking to go back to bed, I turned out the light, threw myself down and soon fell asleep.

I was awakened by a familiar sound—the turning of the combination knob to open the safe! Great heavens! My forebodings and come to pass. I was not armed and dare not confront the robber. I lay perfectly still, wondering what I had better do when the person manipulating the safe lock flashed an electric hand lamp on the knob and began again to turn it. Surely a robber would not be opening the safe by the combination. Some one who knew it was there. Who could it be, and what could be doing there at that time of night? His identity was soon established by his turning the light upon his own face. He was Smithson, the cashier.

My first impulse was to say: "Hello, Smithson! What are you doing?" But I repressed it. I would see for myself what he was doing. But unfortunately at the moment I was seized with a desire to sneeze, and sneeze I did. Smithson immediately switched on the electric light.

"What are you doing here?" he exclaimed on seeing me.

"What are you doing here?" "I got worried about the large amount of money we have here and couldn't sleep. I had to get up and come here to see that it was all right."

"Just my case. I preferred not to go home and laid down here to sleep till morning. I haven't the combination, so I was obliged to content myself with seeing that the safe hadn't been blown open. Singular, isn't it, that we should both have been affected the same way, and got up in the middle of the night to satisfy a feeling?"

"Very. Are you going to remain?" "No; we will walk along together." He opened the safe. We satisfied ourselves that the money was there and left the office together.

The next day I said nothing about

the events of the evening. Smithson went about looking worried. It occurred to me he might feel fearful that I would misinterpret his opening the safe in the night. I couldn't very well reassure him, for that would be acknowledging that he was open to suspicion. In the evening I told Myra about our strange meeting. To my surprise she gasped:

"Oh, heavens!" "What is it?"